AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a virtual device interface, wherein

said virtual device interface is configured to allow a primary storage unit to be

accessed as a secondary storage unit<u>, and</u>

<u>said virtual device interface is coupled to control said primary storage unit and</u>

<u>said secondary storage unit</u>.

2.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein

said virtual device interface is further configured to allow a utility to access said primary

storage unit as said secondary storage unit.

3.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein

said virtual device interface is a virtual tape interface

4.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 3, further comprising

said primary storage unit~~, wherein~~

~~said virtual tape interface is coupled to control said primary storage unit~~.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein

said virtual tape interface is configured to create a virtual loader on said primary storage

unit.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4, further comprising:

[[a]]<u>said</u> secondary storage unit~~, wherein said virtual tape interface is coupled to control~~

~~said secondary storage unit~~.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein said virtual tape interface comprises:

a virtual loader library, communicatively coupled to said primary storage unit; and

a virtual loader utilities module, communicatively coupled to said virtual loader library.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said virtual tape interface further comprises:

a main module, communicatively coupled to said virtual loader library; and

a configuration file, accessible by said main module, wherein said configuration file

comprises information that allows said virtual loader library to create a virtual

loader on said primary storage unit.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein

said virtual loader library is configured to allow a utility to access said primary storage

unit as said secondary storage unit.

10.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

converting a first command to a second command, wherein

said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

said second command is configured to control a second type of storage unit,

said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit; and

accessing said secondary storage unit using a virtual tape interface.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein

said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

creating a virtual loader, wherein

said converting and said creating are performed by said virtual tape interface.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein

said creating creates a directory on said hard drive.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

storing information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

said storing stores information in a file in said directory, and

said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, ~~further comprising:~~

~~accessing a~~wherein said secondary storage unit is communicatively coupled to said

virtual tape interface~~, using said virtual tape interface~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

computer readable medium coupled to said processor; and

computer code, encoded in said computer readable medium, configured to cause said

processor to:

convert a first command to a second command, wherein

said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

said second command is configured to control a second type of storage

unit,

said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit; and

access said secondary storage unit using a virtual tape interface.

17. (Original) The computer system of claim 16, wherein

said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 17, further comprising:

[[a]]said virtual tape interface, wherein

said computer code is further configured to cause said processor to create a virtual

loader, and

said virtual tape interface comprises said computer code configured to cause said processor to convert and said computer code configured to cause said processor to create.

19.   (Original) The computer system of claim 18, wherein said computer code configured to cause said processor to create is further configured to cause said processor to:
create a directory on said hard drive.

20.   (Original) The computer system of claim 19, wherein said computer code is further configured to cause said processor to:
store information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein
said computer code configured to cause said processor to store said information is
further configured to cause said processor to store said information in a
file in said directory, and
said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

21.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 18, wherein ~~said computer code is further configured to cause said processor to:~~
~~access a~~ said secondary storage unit is communicatively coupled to said virtual tape interface~~, using said virtual tape interface~~.

22.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:
a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to convert a first
command to a second command, wherein
said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,
said second command is configured to control a second type of storage unit,
said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and
said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit;
a second set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to access
said secondary storage unit using said virtual tape interface; and

computer readable media, wherein said computer program product is encoded in said computer readable media.

23.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 22, wherein

said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

24.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

a ~~second~~third set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to create a virtual loader, wherein

[[a]]said virtual tape interface comprises said first, said second, and said ~~second~~third set of instructions.

25.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 24, wherein said ~~second~~third set of instructions comprises:

a first subset of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to create a directory on said hard drive.

26.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 25, further comprising:

a ~~third~~fourth set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to store information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

said ~~third~~fourth set of instructions comprises a ~~first~~second subset of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to cause said processor to store said information in a file in said directory, and

said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

27.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 26, ~~further~~

~~comprising:~~

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~~a third set of instructions, executable on said computer system, configured to access~~

<u>a</u>wherein said secondary storage unit <u>is</u> communicatively coupled to said virtual tape interface~~, using said virtual tape interface~~.

28.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

means for converting a first command to a second command, wherein

said first command is configured to control a first type of storage unit,

said second command is configured to control a second type of storage unit,

said first type of storage unit is a secondary storage unit, and

said second type of storage unit is a primary storage unit<u>; and</u>

<u>means for accessing said secondary storage unit using a virtual tape interface.</u>

29.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein

said secondary storage unit is a tape backup unit, and

said primary storage unit is a hard drive.

30.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

means for creating a virtual loader, wherein

[[a]]<u>said</u> virtual tape interface comprises said means for converting<u>, said means</u>

<u>for accessing,</u> and said means for creating.

31.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said means for creating comprises:

means for creating a directory on said hard drive.

32.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:

means for storing information on a virtual tape in said virtual loader, wherein

said means for storing stores information in a file in said directory, and

said file corresponds to said virtual tape.

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33.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said secondary storage unit is communicatively coupled to said virtual tape interface~~further comprising:~~

~~means for accessing a secondary storage unit communicatively coupled to said virtual tape interface, using said virtual tape interface~~.